

PRESIDENT FAURE'S SUCCESSOR

The French Assembly Chooses M. Loubet.

DID NOT WANT THE HONOR

Called by a Decided Majority to the Presidency of the Republic, He Goes His Way Through Howling Mobs—Numbers of Opposing Factions Engage in Pistouffs—Sketch of New President.

(By Telegraph to Virginian-Pilot.)

Paris, Feb. 18.—M. Loubet was elected President of the French Republic this afternoon. He received 484 votes, against 229 votes cast for M. Meunier and 50 scattering.

The National Assembly met at Versailles at 1 o'clock this afternoon. M. Loubet, president of the Senate, declared the sitting open amid the applause of the leftists, during which M. Loubet proceeded to drawing for tellers.

M. Loubet, president of the Senate and presiding officer, arrived in a carriage at 10 o'clock. Friends surrounded him when he entered the gallery of Busto, and he said:

"If you love me I hope you won't vote for me."

Soon the scene became animated. Crowds of people surrounded the doors watching the arrival of members. The palace was closed to the public.

MEETING OF GROUPS.

Various political groups held meetings at noon and M. Cocheret announced that M. Meunier had definitely withdrawn his candidacy. The Nationalists and the anti-Semites decided not to vote for M. Loubet.

When M. Paul de Rousille, organizer of the League of Patriots and Deputy representing the Second District of Arrondissement, was attempted to speak from the tribune where the urns were placed, but M. Loubet forbade him to do so, which called forth protests from the Rightists and applause from the Leftists.

Mr. de Rousille, however, persisted in speaking and rebuked the men who others who rushed up to expel him from the tribune, which he finally left.

While in the tribune M. de Rousille shouted: "The President of the Republic elected by the people I will not vote here."

Then turning to M. Loubet, Mr. de Rousille cried:

"Do you deny what M. de Bour-paire has written?"

To this M. Loubet replied: "I am not called upon to answer you." M. de Rousille, retorted: "I know what you are."

M. Drumont, anti-Semite, representing in the chamber the First Division of Algiers, also attempted to speak, and a great commotion followed, during which cries of "Down with anarchy" were raised.

In the meantime the voting continued. While the checking was in progress the members of the Assembly left the hall and assembled in the galleries and corridors, where they discussed the chances of the election.

A VOTE LOUDLY ANNOUNCED.

M. Meunier loudly announced that he had voted for M. Loubet.

Apart from the de Rousille incident, the voting passed off quietly, the members returning to their seats after voting and chatting on the events of the day.

The progressists insisted on voting for M. Meunier, although he had withdrawn his candidature in favor of M. Loubet, which explains the vote cast for him.

The votes not given to M. Loubet or M. Meunier were divided between M. Chauveau, General Jamont, General Saussure and others.

M. Meunier received an ovation when he voted.

When the sitting of the Assembly was resumed the public galleries were crowded.

LOUBET IS PRESIDENT.

The tellers entered, headed by M. Chauveau, who announced that M. Loubet had been elected by a vote of 484 to 229, cast for M. Meunier, amidst applause from the Leftist and Centre groups.

Senator Chauveau added:

"M. Loubet having obtained an absolute majority, I proclaim him President of the Republic."

The announcement was greeted with prolonged applause, mingled with violent protests from the Rightists and the Leftists shouting "Vive la République."

M. Chauveau then declared the sitting closed.

Squadron of Carabins, which arrived at the palace to escort the new President, was greeted by the crowd outside with cries of "Vive Fauree."

After the announcement of the result M. Chauveau and many members of the Assembly repaired to an adjoining saloon, where M. Loubet awaited them. The result of the election was commended to him and he received the congratulations of his friends.

The newly elected President has promised to devote his best efforts to the betterment of the country and to "reunite the Republics who have drifted asunder by the current of unhappy events."

President Loubet's remarks brought forth lively applause from his hearers.

TRANSFER OF POWER.

The premier, M. Dupuy, then formally transferred the executive power to M. Loubet, and congratulated him upon his election.

The President, in thanking M. Dupuy, expressed the hope of having the support of the cabinet, the Senators and Deputies then filed past and shook hands with the President, who afterwards received a deputation of newspaper men, and through them appealed to the whole press of the country to work in union and appreciation.

M. Loubet left the palace in a carriage, accompanied by M. Dupuy, and followed by the Ministers. The crowds along the route acclaimed President Loubet with cries of "Vive la République," "Vive Fauree," "Vive Loubet."

At 5 o'clock Versailles had resumed its normal aspect.

"President Loubet arrived here from Versailles at 5:08 p. m., and was received with military honors.

CONDEMNED BY THE RABBLE.

As the presidential carriage left the St. Lazare station a band of thirty or forty persons ranged themselves on either side of the landau, under the leadership of a couple of individuals who kept giving signals for shouts of "Down with Loubet!" and "Down with the Republic!"

The general public was apparently indifferent, and no active hostility was displayed. Many in the crowd saluted the President and cried "Vive Loubet!" and "Vive Fauree," but the shouts of the demonstrators running beside the carriage drowned the friendly salutations.

The noise and excitement was redoubled when the carriage stopped at the Elysee. Here two compact hostile groups were massed, hooting and blowing whistles. M. Loubet and Dupuy spent ten minutes with Mme. Faure, and then proceeded to the Quai d'Orsay. On his journey thither M. Loubet was more favorably received by the public.

The Nationalists gathered about the statue of Joan of Arc, and M. Deputies made a very address to them. The crowd then marched to the boulevards and stopped in front of the Libre Parole office. There the Nationalists called themselves hoarse with cries of "Vive Fauree" and "Spit upon Loubet."

A HOSTILE DEMONSTRATION.

The appearance of President Loubet in a carriage was the signal for hostile demonstrations and cries of "Panama, Panama!"

In opposition to cries of "Panama!" the supporters of the President raised shouts of "Vive Loubet!" At this stage of the demonstration a detachment of mounted carabins appeared and cleared a passage for the President's carriage.

The noise was then redoubled and the police had great difficulty in restraining the mob.

Suddenly Mme. de Rousille, Millevoye and Habert appeared. The mob surrounded M. Millevoye, who donned his Aquila hat, which is his usual method of identifying himself to his friends, and from 400 to 500 of his supporters ranged themselves around the three deputies, shouting "Down with Loubet," "Down with the Republic," "Down with the Republic!"

When this body of men reached the Place de l'Opera there was not a sufficient strong force of police there to bar the way, and the demonstrators finally returned to the statue of Joan of Arc, where the deputies mounted upon a sand heap.

MILLEVoye SPEAKS.

M. Millevoye then waved a tri-color flag above M. de Rousille, while the latter harangued the crowd. He said:

"Listen now to what I was prevented from saying at the Versailles election. 'The President belongs to the people. I refuse at this demonstration, but if I say we cannot go to the Elysee and spit upon whom we have no wish to recognize as Chief of State. We must allow to rest in peace, such as it is, the man who is still lying there and return home. But on Thursday we shall not fail to attend the funeral ceremony. We will find among the followers of the coffin the judges of the criminal section of the Court of Cassation, and the base of the statue which elected this President, whom we do not recognize. We know your duty. Down with this Republic and long live a republic of the people!'"

DISPERSED BY POLICE.

The demonstrators then marched to the Rue des Pyramides, shouting and flaming to stop them and tried to seize the flags. But the mob resisted and finally returned to the Avenue de l'Opera, where a large force of police was stationed. In front of the Military Club this detachment of police succeeded in dispersing the demonstrators, a downfall of rain assisting in the work.

Later in the evening bands composed of members of the League of Patriots, Nationalists and others, paraded the boulevards, blocking traffic. Rival shouts of "Vive Loubet" and "Down with Loubet" were raised and some fighting took place between the members of the opposing factions, but order was gradually restored. A number of arrests were made.

President Loubet this evening requested M. Dupuy to resign the Premiership and the present Cabinet.

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Emile Loubet who, until his election to the Presidency to-day, was president of the French Senate, was born at Marsannu, near Besancon, was educated for the bar and began his political life in the general election of 1876, when he professed himself a Republican and opposed to general and complete amnesty. He was elected by a great majority and at once associated himself in the Assembly with the Republican left. He was one of the Deputies who refused a vote of confidence to the de Broglie Ministry in 1877.

After having been twice re-elected to the Senate, he became a candidate for the Senate in his old department and was elected in 1885. He became a member of the first Thirrd Ministry, which only survived for three months, holding the position of Minister of Public Works. When M. de Freycinet declined to make the presidency of the council, he was entrusted with the reconstruction of the Ministry and took the position of Minister of the Interior, from which M. Constans had retired in 1892.

IN THE PROVINCES.

Telegrams received from the provinces this evening show that the announcement of M. Loubet's election has been received with satisfaction.

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